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10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

12 UNICOLORS, INC., a California Corporation,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 MACY'S, INC., a Delaware Corporation;
16 CHERRY STIX LTD., a New York
17 Corporation; and DOES 1-20, inclusive,

18 Defendants.

Case Number: 2:15-cv-00325-DDP-AJW

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR:
1. COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT;
2. VICARIOUS AND/OR
CONTRIBUTORY COPYRIGHT
INFRINGEMENT

Jury Trial Demanded

19
20 Plaintiff Unicolors, Inc. by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby prays to this honorable
21 Court for relief and remedy based on the following:

22
23 **INTRODUCTION**

24 Plaintiff is a California-based company engaged in the apparel industry as a textile converter of
25 imported and domestic fabrications. Plaintiff creates, or purchases and obtains, exclusive rights
26 to unique two-dimensional graphic artworks for use on textiles and garments, and those textiles
27 and garments are transacted primarily in the fashion industry. Plaintiff owns these designs in
28 exclusivity and makes sales of products bearing these designs for profit. Plaintiff's business is

1 predicated on its ownership of these designs and it spends a considerable amount of time and
 2 resources creating and obtaining top-quality, marketable and aesthetically-appealing designs.
 3 Customers of Plaintiff, including possibly Doe defendants named herein, take design samples
 4 with the understanding and agreement that they will only utilize Plaintiff to reproduce said
 5 design should they wish to do so, and will not seek to make minor changes to Plaintiff's
 6 proprietary work to reproduce the same elsewhere, yet use those design in furtherance of their
 7 business in violation of both their contractual agreement with Plaintiff and Plaintiff's copyrights.
 8 No other party is authorized to make sales of product bearing Plaintiff's proprietary design
 9 without express permission from Plaintiff. This action is brought to recover damages for direct,
 10 vicarious and contributory copyright infringement arising out of the misappropriation of
 11 Plaintiff's exclusive designs by the Defendants, and each of them.

12 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 14 1. This action arises under the Copyright Act of 1976, Title 17 U.S.C. §101 *et seq.*
- 15 2. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a) and (b).
- 16 3. Venue in this judicial district is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(c) and 1400(a) in that this is
 17 the judicial district in which a substantial part of the acts and omissions giving rise to the
 18 claims occurred.

19 **PARTIES**

- 20 4. Unicolors, Inc. ("Plaintiff") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the
 21 State of California with its principal place of business located in the County of Los Angeles
 22 at 3251 East 26th Street, Vernon, CA 90058.
- 23 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant Macy's, Inc. ("Macy's")
 24 is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a corporation organized and existing under the laws
 25 of Delaware with its principal place of business located at 7 West Seventh Street, Cincinnati,
 26 Ohio 45202, and is doing business in and with the state of California.
 27
 28

- 1 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant Cherry Stix Ltd.
 2 (“Cherry Stix”) is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a corporation organized and
 3 existing under the laws of New York with its principal place of business located at 1407
 4 Broadway, #1503, New York, NY 10018, and is doing business in and with the state of
 5 California.
- 6 7. Named Defendants, and Does 1-20, may be collectively referred to as “Defendants.”
- 7 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that some of Defendants Does 1
 8 through 3, inclusive, are manufacturers and/or vendors of garments to Defendants, which
 9 Doe Defendants have manufactured and/or supplied and are manufacturing and/or supplying
 10 garments comprised of fabric printed with Plaintiff’s copyrighted design(s) (as hereinafter
 11 defined) without Plaintiff’s knowledge or consent or have contributed to said infringement.
 12 The true names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise, and capacities of defendants
 13 sued herein as Does 1 through 3 are presently unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and therefore,
 14 Plaintiff sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this
 15 complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same have been ascertained.
 16 Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that each of defendants
 17 designated as a Doe is responsible in some manner for the events alleged herein and the
 18 damages caused thereby.
- 19 9. Defendants Does 4 through 20, inclusive, are other parties not yet identified who have
 20 infringed Plaintiff’s copyrights, have contributed to the infringement of Plaintiff’s
 21 copyrights, or have engaged in one or more of the wrongful practices alleged herein. The true
 22 names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise, and capacities of defendants sued herein
 23 as Does 4 through 20 are presently unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and therefore, Plaintiff
 24 sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this
 25 complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same have been ascertained.
- 26 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that at all times relevant hereto each
 27 of Defendants acted in concert with each other, was the agent, affiliate, officer, director,
 28 manager, principal, alter-ego, and/or employee of the remaining defendants and was at all

1 times acting within the scope of such agency, affiliation, alter-ego relationship and/or
 2 employment; and actively participated in or subsequently rarified and adopted, or both, each
 3 and all of the acts or conducts alleged, with full knowledge of all the facts and circumstances,
 4 including without limitation to full knowledge of each and every wrongful conduct and
 5 Plaintiff's damages caused therefrom.

6 7 **CLAIMS RELATED TO DESIGN**

8 11. Plaintiff is the owner and author of a two-dimensional artwork called EH275 ("Subject
 9 Design")(Exhibit A).

10 12. Plaintiff applied for a copyright from the United States Copyright Office for the Subject
 11 Design and was granted Registration No. VA 1-767-351 on March 4, 2011 (Exhibit B).

12 13. Plaintiff formatted the Subject Design for use on textiles, sampled the Subject Design, and
 13 negotiated sales of fabric bearing the Subject Design.

14 14. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, without Plaintiff's authorization,
 15 Defendants purchased, sold, manufactured, caused to be manufactured, imported and/or
 16 distributed fabric and/or garments comprised of fabric featuring a design which is identical,
 17 or substantially similar to, the Subject Design. A true and correct copy of such garments are
 18 attached hereto as Exhibit C. Said garments include but are not limited to garments sold by
 19 Macy's bearing the label "Extra Touch" and RN 67224, which indicates that the garments
 20 were manufactured by or for Cherry Stix.

21 15. At relevant times Defendants, and each of them, owned and controlled retail stores.
 22 Plaintiff's investigation revealed that garments comprised of fabric bearing the Subject
 23 Design were being offered for sale at Defendants' stores. Said garments were manufactured
 24 and/or imported under the direction of the Defendants, and each of them.

25 16. None of the aforementioned transactions were authorized by Plaintiff, and all were in
 26 violation of Plaintiff's intellectual property rights.

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FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(For Copyright Infringement – Against all Defendants, and Each)

17. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth, the allegations contained in the preceding and following paragraphs of this Complaint.

18. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, accessed the Subject Design through, without limitation, the following: (a) access to Plaintiff's design library; (b) access to authorized or unauthorized reproductions in the possession of other vendors and/or Doe Defendants; and (c) access to Plaintiff's strike-offs, swatches, paper CADs and samples.

19. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, infringed Plaintiff's copyright by importing, creating, making and/or developing directly infringing and/or derivative works from the Subject Design and by importing, producing, distributing and/or selling infringing garments through a nationwide network of retail stores, catalogues, and online websites.

20. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial.

21. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered general and special damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial.

22. Due to Defendants' acts of copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would not otherwise have realized but for their infringement of the Subject Design. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendants' infringement of the Subject Design in an amount to be established at trial.

23. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, have committed acts of infringement alleged herein with actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's rights such that Plaintiff is entitled to a finding of willful infringement.

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SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(For Vicarious and/or Contributory Copyright Infringement – Against All Defendants)

24. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth, the allegations contained in the preceding and following paragraphs of this Complaint.

25. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, knowingly induced, participated in, aided and abetted in and resultantly profited from the illegal reproduction, importation, purchase, distribution and/or sales of product featuring the Subject Design as alleged herein above.

26. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, are vicariously liable for the infringement alleged herein because they had the right and ability to supervise the infringing conduct and because they had a direct financial interest in the infringing product.

27. By reason of the Defendants', and each of their, acts of contributory and/or vicarious infringement as alleged above, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial damages to its business in an amount to established at trial, as well as additional general and special damages in an amount to be established at trial.

28. Due to Defendants' acts of contributory and/or vicarious copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would have not otherwise realized but for their infringement of the Subject Design. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendants' infringement of the Subject Design, an amount to be established at trial.

29. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, have committed acts of infringement alleged herein with actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's rights such that Plaintiff is entitled to a finding of willful infringement.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against all Defendants as follows:

1. That Defendants, their agents and servants be enjoined from infringing Plaintiff's

1 copyrights in any manner;

- 2 2. That Plaintiff be awarded all profits of Defendants plus all losses of Plaintiff, the
3 exact sum to be proven at time of trial, or, if elected before final judgment, statutory
4 damages as available under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*;
- 5 3. That Plaintiff be awarded its attorneys' fees as available under the Copyright Act, 17
6 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*;
- 7 4. That Plaintiff be awarded pre-judgment interest as allowed by law;
- 8 5. That Plaintiff be awarded costs of litigation; and
- 9 6. That Plaintiff be awarded such further legal and equitable relief as the Court deems
10 proper.

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12 **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

13 Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury in this action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
14 38 and the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution.

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17 Dated: January 15, 2015

18 Respectfully submitted,

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20 /s/ C. Yong Jeong

21 C. Yong Jeong, Esq.

22 Paul J. Cohen, Esq.

23 Daniel D. Hoffman, Esq.

24 Attorneys for Plaintiff Unicolors, Inc.
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